

Message Text

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73

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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P 121535Z DEC 74

FM AMCONSUL CALI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1206

INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PANAMA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

UNCLAS CALI 0515

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJ: PANAMANIAN PRESIDENT OVERNIGHTS CALI DEC 11 ENROUTE

CIUDAD BOLIVAR MEETING.

1. GENERAL OMAR TORRIJOS IN A SURPRISE VISIT FOLLOWING AYACUCHO MEETING, ARRIVED CALI ABOARD PANAMANIAN AIR FORCE AIRCRAFT LATE AFTERNOON DEC. 11 TO OVERNIGHT BEFORE PROCEEDING TO THE CIUDAD BOLIVAR MEETING OF CENTRAL AMERICAN PRESIDENTS WITH VENEZUELAN PRESIDENT PEREZ.

2. TORRIJOS WAS MET BY A HASTILY ASSEMBLED RECEPTION COMMITTEE COMPRISED OF THE GOVERNOR, MAYOR, CIVIL AND MILITARY AUTHORITIES AND MEMBERS OF PANAMANIAN COMMUNITY.

3. IN A BRIEF STATEMENT AT THE AIRPORT TORRIJOS PRAISED THE RECENTLY CONCLUDED MEETING OF AYACUCHO AS ONE OF THE MOST FRANK THAT HAS TAKEN PLACE IN LATIN AMERICA IN RECENT YEARS, WHERE QUOTE CADA COSA SE LLAMA POR SU NOMBRE END QUOTE. HE SAID THE AYACUCHO MEETING SERVED TO DESIGN A SYSTEM TO ENABLE CONTINUING DISCUSSIONS WITH RESPECT TO MEETING THE PROFOUND CRISIS CONFRONTING THE WORLD. HE DECLARED THAT AYACUCHO WOULD PRODUCE RESULTS CITING AS A FIRST RESULT SCHEDULED MEETINGS AT CARACAS 1975 AND PANAMA
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1976 COMMEMORATING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF BOLIVAR'S CONFERENCE

AT PANAMA.

4. ASKED FOR HIS OPINION OF THE RECENT MEETING OF FOREIGN MINISTERS AT QUITO, TORRIJOS DESCRIBED THE QUITO MEETING AS A FAILURE BUT A FAILURE FROM WHICH WILL NOW EMERGE A NEW APPROACH THAT WILL EVENTUALLY REVITALIZE THE OAS TURNING IT INTO AN ORGANIZATION WHICH MAY EFFECTIVELY MEET OUR PROBLEMS.

COMMENT: TORRIJOS APPARENTLY CHOSE TO OVERNIGHT AT CALI RATHER THAN MAKE THE LONGER RETURN TRIP TO PANAMA, REJECTING THE MORE OBVIOUS STOP AT BOGOTA, WHICH HAD BEEN PREEMPTED BY VENEZUELIAN PRESIDENT PEREZ FOR AN ELABORATE DECEMBER 11 MEETING WITH COLOMBIAN PRESIDENT LOPEZ. TORRIJOS FOLLOWING QUICK VISIT TO CENTRO INTERNACIONAL DE AGRICULTURA TROPICAL (CIAT), IS SCHEDULED TO DEPART FOR CIUDAD BOLIVAR LATE THIS AFTERNOON.
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